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A Resolution by the Faculty of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Faculty, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

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A R E S O L U T I O N

by

THE FACULTY OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

COLLEGE OF FORESTRY

The faculty and the research staff of the College of Forestry are fully mindful of the forty-five years of friendly association and cooperation it has had with Syracuse University. We have no desire to see these relations discontinued.

We are mindful further that the College has achieved its present stature and prestige in national and international forestry, as a State-administered college in cooperation with Syracuse University.

Having been informed through the press that a bill has been introduced into the State Legislature to repeal Article 121 of the State Education Law and make the College of Forestry a contract college of Syracuse University, we have studied this bill carefully and respectfully wish to present our opinion through the following statement and resolutions.

First: The College of Forestry, established by Chapter 851 of the Laws of 1911, operating under its own Board of Trustees, and continued under the State University by Article 121 of the New York State Education Law, has achieved growth and professional stature unequalled by any similar institution in the United States. It has become a professional college of world eminence and prestige, enjoying the respect of the public, its alumni, and professional men in general.

Second: Under existing laws the College has enjoyed constructive and beneficial relationships with the State Education Department, State University, and Syracuse University that have given continuing strength to the College.

Third: The newly introduced bill would alter and disrupt these constructive relationships by

- 1) abolishing the College Board of Trustees, with its sympathetic understanding of the College and its needs;
- 2) transferring authority for College educational and research policies, and for College administration from State agencies to a private agency.


Fourth: From available information, the College faculty and the research staff have serious fears that the enactment of this legislation would be inimical to the immediate and long-term interests of the College, its students, and the people of the State of New York because:


- 1) It would hamper College administration by placing it within the administrative fabric of a large private institution as well as that of the State educational system;

- 2) In college policies on education, research, and extension, the interests of a private university might tend to take precedence over those of the people of New York;
- 3) It would tend to aggravate rather than eliminate sources of friction relating to this college that now exist only to a minor degree between State University and Syracuse University;
- 4) It would transfer control over college properties in value of approximately \$13,000,000 and an annual budget currently \$1,880,000 from state-appointed trustees to a private university without adequate, public consideration; and finally
- 5) It would handicap the attainment of the major purpose of the College of Forestry: to provide high-quality education in forestry at the lowest cost, for the benefit of the people of New York State.

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED: That we, the faculty and the research staff of the College of Forestry, oppose this bill to repeal Article 121 of the State Education Law, and respectfully request that this bill be rejected.

Approved unanimously by the Faculty and the Research Staff


Hardy L. Shirley, Dean


R. F. Crossman, Secretary

February 27, 1956